
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION PETITION NO. 2 OF 2025

Larsen & Toubro Ltd. Water & Effluent Treatment ...Petitioner

Versus

Silvassa Smart City Ltd. ...Respondent

Mr. Sanaya D. a/w MKA & Co., for the Petitioner.

Mr. Manoj Sable, h/f H.S. Venegavkar, for Respondent.

CORAM : SOMASEKHAR SUNDARESAN, J.

DATE : MARCH 10, 2025

PC :

1. This Petition has been filed under Section 11 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (***“the Act”***), seeking appointment of an arbitrator in connection with disputes and differences that are said to have arisen between the parties under the Contract Agreement dated December 24, 2021 (***“Agreement”***). The arbitration agreement is contained in Clause 25 (found at Pages 87 & 88 of the Application). In the interest of brevity, the arbitration agreement is not being extracted here. Suffice it to say that this matter falls within the jurisdiction of this Court.

2. Today, when the matter is called out, Learned Counsel for the

parties jointly submit that they would be agreeable to have all the disputes and differences between them in connection with the aforesaid agreement referred to resolution by an arbitral tribunal, leaving it open to the parties to seek such interlocutory relief as they may desire from the arbitral tribunal. The parties also record their consent, on taking instructions, that the seat of the arbitration stands amended by mutual consent, and they both submit to the Court that the seat would henceforth be Mumbai which would be convenient for all the parties and would achieve economies of scale and reduce cost of the arbitration.

3. In these circumstances, taking into account inputs from officers of the Court, this Application is hereby ***finally disposed of***, in terms of the following order:

- a) Justice (Retired) G.S. Patel, a former judge of this Court, is hereby appointed as the Sole Arbitrator to adjudicate upon the disputes and differences between the parties arising out of and in connection with the Agreement referred to above;

Office Address:-

11 Maker Chambers VI,
220 Jamnalal Bajaj Marg,
Nariman Point, Mumbai- 400 021

Email ID: gautam@gautampatel.com

- b) A copy of this Order will be communicated to the Learned Sole Arbitrator by the Advocates for the Applicant within a period of one week from the date on which this order is uploaded on the website of this Court. The Applicant shall provide the contact and communication particulars of the parties to the Arbitral Tribunal along with a copy of this Order;
- c) The Learned Sole Arbitrator is requested to forward the statutory Statement of Disclosure under Section 11(8) read with Section 12(1) of the Act to the parties within a period of two weeks from receipt of a copy of this Order;
- d) The parties shall appear before the Learned Sole Arbitrator on such date and at such place as indicated, to obtain appropriate directions with regard to conduct of the arbitration including fixing a schedule for pleadings, examination of witnesses, if any, schedule of hearings etc. At such meeting, the parties shall provide a valid and functional email address along with mobile and landline numbers of the respective Advocates of the parties to the Arbitral Tribunal. Communications to such email addresses shall constitute valid service of correspondence in connection with the arbitration;
- e) All arbitral costs and fees of the Arbitral Tribunal shall

be borne by the parties equally in the first instance, and shall be subject to any final Award that may be passed by the Tribunal in relation to costs.

4. Needless to say, nothing contained in this order is an expression of an opinion on merits of the matter or the relative strength of the parties. All issues on merits are expressly kept open to be agitated before the arbitral tribunal appointed hereby.

5. All actions required to be taken pursuant to this order shall be taken upon receipt of a downloaded copy as available on this Court's website.

[SOMASEKHAR SUNDARESAN, J.]